

On page 22, lines 11-13, cancel “. The invention also relates to a corresponding transmitting and/or receiving station. Inoperable” and substitute therefor --, wherein inoperable--.

On page 22, line 15, cancel “(TS/f)” .

5 On page 22, cancel line 17.

In the Claims:

On page 19, cancel line 1, and substitute the following left-hand justified heading therefor:

--We Claim As Our Invention:--

10 Please cancel claims 1-10, without prejudice, and substitute the following claims therefor:

11. A method for determining operability of at least one radio channel in a mobile radio communication system, the method comprising the steps of:

15 observing the at least one radio channel as an observed radio channel;
establishing an operating state of the observed radio channel at least one of continuously in time and repeatedly over a number of successive frames; and
evaluating a resultant history of the operating state to determine the operability of the observed radio channel.

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12. A method for determining operability of at least one radio channel in a mobile radio communication system as claimed in claim 11, the method further comprising the step of:

25 determining a mean value of the operating state over a period of observation during the step of evaluating the resultant history.

13. A method for determining operability of at least one radio channel in a mobile radio communication system as claimed in claim 11, the method further comprising the step of:

determining a measured value characteristic of the operating state of the observed radio channel during the step of establishing the operating state.

14. A method for determining operability of at least one radio channel in a mobile radio communication system as claimed in claim 13, the method further comprising the step of:

determining whether the measured value has one of reached, exceeded and undershot a predetermined limit value in a period of observation during the step of evaluating the resultant history.

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15. A method for determining operability of at least one radio channel in a mobile radio communication system as claimed in claim 13, wherein a short-time fluctuation of the measured value remains unconsidered in the step of evaluating the resultant history.

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16. A method for determining operability of at least one radio channel in a mobile radio communication system as claimed in claim 11, the method further comprising the steps of:

establishing the respective operating state of a plurality of observed radio channels; and

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determining a correlation of a development of the operating state of at least some of the observed radio channels with time during the step of evaluating the resultant history.

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17. A method for determining operability of at least one radio channel in a mobile radio communication system as claimed in claim 16, wherein the radio channels are physical channels of a TDMA (Time Division Multiple Access) radio communication system and a temporal drift of a radio channel is established

from the correlation of the development of observed radio channels of a same radio frequency with time.

18. A method for determining operability of at least one radio channel in a mobile radio communication system as claimed in claim 11, the method further comprising the steps of:

establishing, repeatedly, a measure of the operating state; and

storing a corresponding value in a data field of a data memory for storing a development of the operating state with time.

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19. A method for determining operability of at least one radio channel in a mobile radio communication system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the radio channels are physical channels of a TDMA (Time Division Multiple Access)/FDMA (Frequency Division Multiple Access) radio communication system and the operating state of each available radio channel is one of known and established by observing the at least one observed radio channel.

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20. A transmission station for a mobile radio communication system, for at least one of transmitting and receiving communication information transmitted via an air interface, comprising:

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a receiving device via which at least one observed radio channel, which is currently not used for one of transmitting and receiving the communication information, can be observed by establishing its operating state at least one of continuously in time and repeatedly over a number of successive frames;

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a storage device for storing values which reproduce a history of the operating state of the at least one observed radio channel resulting from establishing the operating state; and